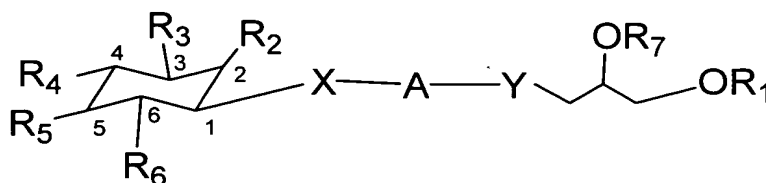


*SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS*

Please replace paragraph [0021] with the following:

[0021] The present invention provides a compound of the formula I:



(I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

wherein X and Y are independently selected from the group consisting of O, CF<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>, and CHF;

A is independently selected from the group consisting of P(O)OH, ~~CH<sub>2</sub>COOH~~, and ~~CH(COOH)<sub>2</sub>~~; CHCOOH, and C(COOH)<sub>2</sub>;

R<sub>2</sub> is selected from the group consisting of H, OH, isosteres of OH, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>25</sub> alkyloxy, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> aryloxy, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyloxy, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>22</sub> alkenyloxy, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkenyloxy, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>32</sub> aralkyloxy, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>32</sub> alkylaryloxy, C<sub>9</sub>-C<sub>32</sub> aralkenyloxy, and C<sub>9</sub>-C<sub>32</sub> alkenylaryloxy;

R<sub>3</sub>-R<sub>6</sub> are independently selected from the group consisting of H, OH, isosteres of OH; and

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>7</sub> are independently selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>25</sub> alkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> aryl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>22</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkenyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>32</sub> aralkyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>32</sub> alkylaryl, C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>32</sub> aralkenyl, and C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>32</sub> alkenylaryl;

with the provisos that (i) when X is O, Y is O or CH<sub>2</sub>, and R<sub>3</sub> is H, at least one of R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>4</sub>-R<sub>6</sub> is not OH; (ii) when A is ~~CH<sub>2</sub>COOH~~ or ~~CH(COOH)<sub>2</sub>~~, CHCOOH or C(COOH)<sub>2</sub>, X and Y cannot be simultaneously O; and (iii) all of R<sub>2</sub>-R<sub>6</sub> are not simultaneously H.